

Maine Maritime Museum Library

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**Inventory for
Manuscript Collection
MS-76**

**Captain Gideon M. Yates Papers
Inclusive dates 1866 - 1918
Bulk dates – 1870 to 1874**

by
Tracy Lamaestra
(Edited by Anastasia S. Weigle)
March 2012

Shelf feet: .50
Number of boxes: 1
Accession No. 84.73.1

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Abstract

Yates, Gideon M. *Captain* (b 1822-d 1903)

Papers, 1866-1918 (Bulk dates: 1870 to 1874)

1 Box

Ship captain and owner from Bristol, Maine.

Vessel and personal papers of Captain Gideon M. Yates as shipmaster of the *Annie Fish*. Includes vessel related papers for the *Annie Fish* (Ship) such as a registration, correspondence, account summaries, accounts general, freight and cargo, crew wages, and portage bills. Personal papers include a few photographs and ephemeral items. The papers are grouped into two series. Series I. *Annie Fish* (Ship) and Series II. Personal Papers.

Donated by Dr. and Mrs. Norman W. Ofslager on August 16, 1984.

MS-76, Accession No. 84.73.1

Finding aid in repository; folder level control.

Added Entries—persons

Yates, Gideon M. *Captain*

Yates, Gedeon M. *Captain* [alternate spelling]

Added entries—corporate bodies (including vessels)

Annie Fish (Ship)

Added entries—key terms

Invoices

Merchant seamen

Photographs

Seamanship

Ship captains

Ships

Tintypes

Wages

Acquisition

Dr. and Mrs. Norman W. Ofslager donated the papers to the Maine Maritime Museum on August 16, 1984, accession no. 84.73.1.

Provenance

There is no documentation on where the donors acquired the Captain Yates papers.

Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the use of these materials for study or research.

Physical Condition

The majority of the papers are in good condition. Some manuscripts are soiled and discolored. Others have folds, creases, tears, and other signs of distress. Those with heavier crease lines required flattening with a tacking iron at low to medium heat. Manuscripts of fine tissue paper were sleeved. Tintypes and carte de visites were sleeved as well.

Processing Notes

The papers were already loosely organized by subject and then chronologically. All vessel papers for the ship *Annie Fish* were kept together in Series I. Personal papers were placed in Series II and include personal photographs and loose ephemeral papers

Biographical Notes

Captain Gideon M. Yates was born on May 23, 1822 to William Yates in Bristol Maine. He married Rachel Fuller (b. 1825) of Nobleboro, Maine on June 27, 1848. They had children Rachel A. and Jane F. Yates. Mrs. Rachel Fuller Yates died on November 26, 1864 in Maine. Captain Yates married Amanda M. Barrett on January 6, 1866 in Hope, Maine. They had children Katie M. (b. 1861) and Augusta B. (b. 1868).

Captain Yates was master and part owner of the *Annie Fish* (Ship), *Mountain Eagle* (Bark) and *Pacific* (Schooner). He sailed out of Waldoboro for many years. His last voyage was on the *Annie Fish* (Ship). Captain Yates retired to Round Pond in 1875 and ran a porgy business via a factory at Muscongus Island until 1879. He was a Methodist Church member and representative to the Maine State Legislature in 1878. Captain Yates died on October 22, 1903 in Round Pond, Maine and is buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Bristol next to his wives.

References

1. *Bath Daily Times*. 22 October 1903.
2. Gideon M. Yates. Captain Card Index. Maine Maritime Museum.
3. <http://search.ancestry.com>. 13 March 2012.

Scope and Content Notes

The Captain Gideon M. Yates papers consist of a single box of manuscript records belonging to Captain Yates as shipmaster of the *Annie Fish* (Ship). A large portion of the papers are vessel related for the *Annie Fish* (Ship). Account summaries and general accounts (invoices, receipts) capture the financial scope of Captain Yates involvement in the shipping industry.

Personal papers include a few unidentified photographs and ephemeral papers including a poem entitled "Something to Love" by Gussie B. Yates, Capt. Yates daughter Augusta. There is also a small drawing of an anchor inscribed "MBO," pressed flowers that were folded into note paper with the inscription "San Francisco Carrie," and two envelopes with no content. News clippings include obituaries, announcements, poetry and news about the ship *Annie Fish*. Publications include *Key to Curious and Useful Questions on the Bible*, *Rules for the Government of the Executive Department of the State of Maine for 1866*; *Kennebec Journal—Extra: Public Laws of the State of Maine, 1868* and *Members of the Elect of the Senate and House Representatives of the State of Maine—1866* which shows Capt. Gideon M. Yates as elected representative for Lincoln County, Bristol Maine, Political affiliation Union.

Organization and Description of Series

Series I. *Annie Fish* (Ship) (1868-74): Includes one vessel registration, correspondence between Captain Yates and the IRS, T. J. Webby and merchants. Accounts include summaries and general invoices to various ports, freight and cargo receipts, crew accounts and portage bills.

Series II. Personal Papers (n.d., 1866-1918)

Subseries IIa. Photographs. Three tintypes and three carte de vistas of women and children. There are no notations on the back of the photographs that can help identify them. There are two paper oval picture frames cards without photos.

Subseries IIb. Ephemera. Various news clippings, publications, personal writings and press dried flower.

MS-76 Captain Gideon M. Yates Papers Finding Aid

Box# Folder #

Series I. Vessel Papers

***Annie Fish* (Ship)**

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Registration—1873 |
| | 2 | Correspondence—1870-1872 |
| | 3 | Accounts—summaries, 1870-74 |
| | | Accounts—General |

- 4 Round Pond, Oct.-Nov. 1868
- 5 New York, Dec. 1868
- 6 San Francisco, May-June 1869
- 7 New York, Jan. 1870
- 8 Baltimore to St. John to Liverpool, May-Sept. 1870
- 9 New York to Liverpool/Wales, Dec. 1870-April 1871
- 10 New York to London to Newport to Lundy Island, April-Sept. 1871
- 11 Newport to San Francisco to Newcastle to Sydney, Feb.-June 1872
- 12 San Francisco, Sept. 1872
- 13 San Francisco to Liverpool to Birkenhead to Paita to San Francisco,
Feb.-Dec. 1873
- 14 San Francisco to Liverpool, May 1874
- 15 Invoices, other—(n.d./ports not easily identified)
- 16 Accounts, Freight and Cargo, 1871
- Accounts, Crew
- 17 Wages, 1873
- 18 Portage Bills, n.d., 1869-1873
- 19 Miscellaneous, envelopes without contents

Series II. Personal Papers

Subseries IIa. Photographs

- 20 Family photos, unidentified, 3 Tintypes, 3 Carte de Vista, 3 small blank photo mats

Subseries IIb. Ephemera

- Miscellaneous Papers
- 21 Several ephemeral materials
 - Poem "*Something to Love*," by Gussie B. Yates, n.d.,
 - Pressed flowers, San Francisco, n.d.
 - Small drawing of anchor inscribed MBO, n.d.
 - Envelopes address to Mrs. Gideon B. Yates 1901 & Mrs. Amanda M. Yates 1918 (no contents)
- 22 Newspaper clippings, n. d., 1878, 1896
- 23 Various printed materials, n.d., 1866-1868